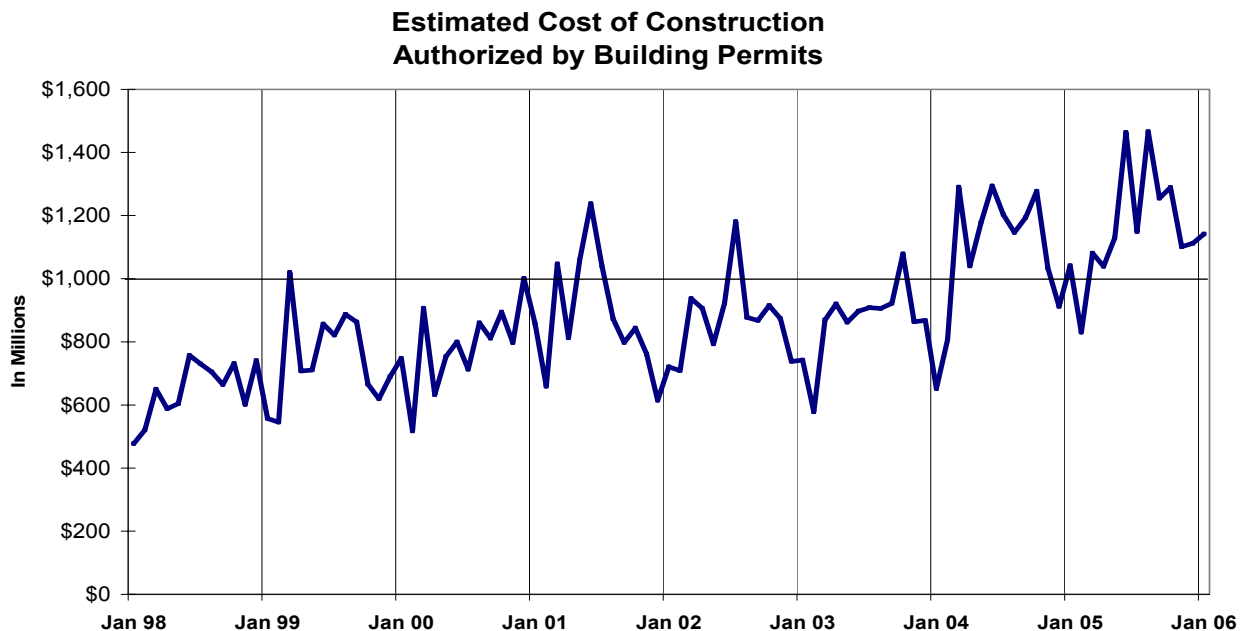


JANUARY 2006 HIGHLIGHTS

- The last time monthly construction went below \$1 billion was in February 2005. This January, the estimated cost of construction authorized by building permits was \$1.141 billion. New houses and repairs and additions to existing dwellings totaled \$585 million, 51.2 percent of all authorized work. Nonresidential development accounted for \$556.5 million. For this month, 543 municipalities reported.
- In 2005, housing construction accounted for just over 59 percent of all construction in New Jersey. For the first month of 2006, it appears that housing continues as a major force in the State's construction industry; but, there were several big, nonresidential projects in January that reduced the residential share of the construction industry to just over one-half.



- Wayne Township in Passaic County led all municipalities with \$64.6 million of construction; \$60 million of this total was for the new Preakness Healthcare Center.
- “State Buildings” refers to a category of construction activity conducted by State universities and other agencies or authorities that act on behalf of State agencies. January activity for State buildings amounted to \$51 million; \$46 million of this amount was for a new Liberty Science Center in Jersey City, Hudson County.

- The City of Newark in Essex County had \$26.2 million of construction. New houses accounted for \$14.4 million of this total. Newark had 189 authorized houses in January, more than any other locality.
- Randolph Township in Morris County reported \$21 million of construction. A warehouse for a furniture company accounted for \$20 million.
- Two permits for large warehouse developments accounted for most of the \$21.1 million reported by Hanover Township in Morris County.
- In Hamilton Township, Mercer County, half of the \$18.9 million of authorized construction was for an expansion of the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.

